ii) cultured cells selected from FRTL-5 cells, CHO-R cells, and CHOLuc cells, wherein said cultured cells are contained within a testing means, and

iii) polyethylene glycol;

b) exposing said test sample to said cultured cells and said polyethylene glycol under conditions such that said thyroid-stimulating antibodies are detectable; and

c) observing for the presence of detectable thyroid-stimulating antibodies.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application.

Claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice to its renewal in another application, and merely to expedite Applicant's business interests.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of the present application.

Dated: August 7, 2000

(DN)

Kamrin T. MacKnight Registration No. 38,230

Please direct all communications to:

Peter G. Carroll Registration No. 32,837 MEDLEN & CARROLL, LLP 220 Montgomery Street, Suite 2200 San Francisco, California 94104 415/705-8410